

A B S T R A C T

The invention relates to a process for  
5 bringing about a permanent connection between at least  
two components, one of which components is obtained by  
moulding of a thermoplastic elastomeric material,  
characterized in that the component is subjected to a  
treatment comprising the following steps:

- 10 a. stretching of the component of thermoplastic  
elastomeric material  
b. relaxation of the component subjected to step (a)  
at ambient temperature.  
c. placement of the component obtained sub (b) at the  
15 location of the desired connection in the object  
d. exposure to an increased temperature of at most  
about 20°C below the melting point of the  
thermoplastic elastomer.

Application of the process of the  
20 invention, in particular during step (d), produces a  
shrunk connection which provides a permanent seal under  
tension.

The invention may be applied for many types  
of connections and seals, for example body plugs,  
25 shrink-on sleeving, sealing rings, etc.  
Especially suitable, particularly in automotive  
applications, are copolyether esters.